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09/928,451	08/14/2001	Akihiko Okada	Q65793	8140

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EXAMINER

THAI, CANG G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3629

DATE MAILED: 01/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,761,647 (BOUSHY).

As for claim 1, BOUSHY discloses a computer peripheral sales promoting system comprising:

a service status detecting means for detecting a service status of a computer peripheral {Column 11, Lines 10-11, wherein this reads over “a card removal or status request, the customer account is updated 450”};

a customer product information storing means for storing specification information of said computer peripheral and user information which specifies a user of said computer peripheral and also for consecutively updating and storing a service status detected by said service status detecting means are provided in a computer which serves as an upper-level system for said computer {Column 1, Lines 21-24, wherein this reads over “Each identification number has an associated customer account that is stored in the casino's computer system and updated to reflect customer activity”};

a sales promoting terminal for making access to said customer product information storing means to thereby read out said specification information, said user information, and service status {Column 2, Lines 12-16, wherein this reads over "employees at each property with on-line access to the customer data necessary to implement cross-property incentive programs and to provide personalized services to customers, independent of which casino property the customer regularly visits"}.

As for claim 2, BOUSHY discloses a computer peripheral sales promoting system comprising:

a service status detecting means for detecting a service status of a computer peripheral {Column 11, Lines 10-11, wherein this reads over "a card removal or status request, the customer account is updated 450"};

a customer product information storing means for storing specification information of said computer peripheral and user information of said computer peripheral and also for consecutively updating and storing a service status detected by said service status detecting means is provided to said computer peripheral {Column 1, Lines 21-24, wherein this reads over "Each identification number has an associated customer account that is stored in the casino's computer system and updated to reflect customer activity"}; and

a sales promoting terminal for making access to said customer product information storing means to thereby read out said specification information, said user information, and service status {Column 2, Lines 12-16, wherein this reads over "employees at each property with on-line access to the customer data necessary to

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implement cross-property incentive programs and to provide personalized services to customers, independent of which casino property the customer regularly visits”}.

As for claim 3, BOUSHY discloses the computer peripheral sales promoting system according to Claim 1, wherein said computer peripheral is arranged in a network {Column 2, Lines 26-28, wherein this reads over “a local area network (LAN) at each affiliated casino property and a wide area network (WAN) for coupling data among the casino LANs”}.

As for Claim 4, which has same limitations as in Claim 3, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reasons set forth in Claim 3.

As for claim 5, BOUSHY discloses the computer peripheral sales promoting system according to Claim 1, wherein said computer peripheral is comprises a data storing apparatus {Column 4, Lines 60-63, wherein this read over “customer data may be sorted and stored in server 114 according to customer groups segmented by profitability, principal gaming location (property), or other marketing criteria ”}.

As for Claim 6, which has same limitations as in Claim 5, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reasons set forth in Claim 5.

As for Claim 7, which has same limitations as in Claim 5, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reasons set forth in Claim 5.

As for Claim 8, which has same limitations as in Claim 5, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reasons set forth in Claim 5.

As for claim 9, BOUSHY discloses the computer peripheral sales promoting system according to Claim 5, wherein:

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said specification information includes at least a disk capacity of said data storing apparatus {Column 4, Lines 64-65, wherein this reads over "customer data in server 112 is stored in a manner that facilitates rapid access by customer ID or name "}; and

said service status detecting means detects a spent disk capacity and a load status of said data storing apparatus as a service status {Column 5, Lines 60-64, wherein this reads over "a customer's betting activity at slot machine 130 is accumulated in SMS 262 until the session is terminated or an account status is requested by CMS 234, at which time the data is transferred to CMS 234 via LAN 120"}.

As for Claim 10, which has same limitations as in Claim 9, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reasons set forth in Claim 9.

As for claim 11, which has same limitations as in Claim 9, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reasons set forth in Claim 9.

As for claim 12, As for Claim 8, which has same limitations as in Claim 9, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reasons set forth in Claim 9.

As for claim 14, which has same limitations as in Claim 2, therefore, it is rejected for the similar reasons set forth in Claim 9.

### ***Conclusion***

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

I. U.S. Patent:

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- 1) U.S. Patent No. 6,571,285 (GROATH ET AL) is cited to teach providing an integrated service assurance environment for a network,
- 2) U.S. Patent No. 6,813,278 (SWARTZ ET AL) is cited to teach process for submitting and handling a service request in a local service management system, and
- 3) U.S. Patent No. 6,183,362 (BOUSHY) is cited to teach national customer recognition system and method.


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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cang (James) G. Thai whose telephone number is (571) 272-6499. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 AM - 3:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CGT  
12/26/2005



DENNIS RUHL  
PRIMARY EXAMINER